

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of the claims will replace the previous version, and the listing of the claims:

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A cylinder head gasket, comprising:
one metal plate for forming the gasket having a cylinder bore and a folded portion formed around the cylinder bore, and
a paint coating formed on at least one side of the metal plate outside the folded portion without overlapping thereto for forming a surface pressure thereat, said paint coating having a hardness of 2H-6H in pencil hardness without foaming.
2. (original) A cylinder head gasket according to claim 1, wherein said paint coating is provided only around the folded portion to form a first paint coating therearound.
3. (original) A cylinder head gasket according to claim 1, wherein said metal plate further includes a liquid hole and a bead formed around liquid hole, said paint coating being formed only on and around the bead surrounding the liquid hole to form a second paint coating therearound.
4. (currently amended) A cylinder head gasket according to claim 1, wherein said metal plate further includes a liquid hole and a bead formed around the liquid hole, said paint coating being formed around the folded portion without overlapping thereto to form a first paint coating therearound and also formed on and around the bead surrounding the liquid hole outside the first paint coating to form a second paint coating therearound, said second paint coating having a thickness less than that of the first paint coating.

5. (original) A cylinder head gasket according to claim 4, wherein said second paint coating is formed only around the liquid hole.

6. (original) A cylinder head gasket according to claim 4, wherein said folded portion has a largest thickness in the gasket.

7. (currently amended) A cylinder head gasket according to claim 6, wherein said bead is a half bead to form an inner side and an outer side relative to the liquid hole so that when the gasket is tightened, surface pressures on the gasket are arranged ~~as~~ such that the folded portion [[>]] is greater than the inner portion [[>]] ; the inner portion is greater than the first paint coating [[>]] ; and the first paint coater is greater than the outer portion.

8. (currently amended) A cylinder head gasket ~~according to claim 4,~~ wherein comprising:

one metal plate for forming the gasket having a cylinder bore, a folded portion formed around the cylinder bore, a liquid hole and a bead formed around the liquid hole, and

a paint coating formed on at least one side of the metal plate outside the folded portion without overlapping thereto for forming a surface pressure thereat, said paint coating being formed around the folded portion to form a first paint coating therearound and also formed on and around the bead surrounding the liquid hole outside the first paint coating to form a second paint coating therearound, said second paint coating having a thickness less than that of the first paint coating, said first and second paint coatings are being formed to partly abut against each other.

9. (original) A cylinder head gasket according to claim 4, wherein said first and second paint coatings are spaced from each other.

10. (original) A cylinder head gasket according to claim 4, wherein said paint coating is formed on two sides of the metal plate symmetrically.

11. (original) A cylinder head gasket according to claim 1, wherein said paint coating is formed of a synthetic resin.

12. (new) A cylinder head gasket according to claim 1, wherein said paint coating has a thickness less than that of the folded portion.

13. (new) A cylinder head gasket according to claim 4, wherein said paint coating has a thickness less than that of the folded portion.